Message Text

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EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 235751 ACTION TRIPOLI DATED 3 OCT 75 QUOTE ${\tt CONFIDENTIALSTATE\,235751}$

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, LY

SUBJECT:(9::8\$3,5-) \$8 0753 285#)8?6-

43*: A) TRIPOLI 1105 B) TRIPOLI 1109

1. LIBYAN CHARGE GASHUT MADE DEMARCHE OCTOBER 1 CONVEYING ESSENTIALLY SAMEHMESSAGE AS THAT OF DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY TRAYKI (REF A). OCCIDENTAL ON OCTOBER 2 RELEASED ANNOUNCEMENT TO PRESS STATING THAT LARG HAS REFUSED TO ACCEPT OXY'S ARBITRATION NOTICES AND HAS NOW SUSPENDED DELIVERIES OF CRUDE FROM THE ZWEITINA TERMINAL AND PROHIBITED OXY'S EXPATRIATE EMPLOYEES AND FAMILIES FROM LEAVING THE COUNTRY. STATEMENT SAYS THAT THERE ARE 520 OXY EXPATRIATE EMPLOYEES AND FAMILY MEMBERS OF WHICH ABOUT 230 ARE US CITIZENS. CONFIDENTIAL

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OCCIDENTAL HAS ALSO SENT LETTERS TO SECREARY KISSINGER,

PRESIDENT FORD, ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON, AND SFRC CHAIRMAN SPARKMAN.

- 2. SINCE WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY NOTICE FROM HE LARG OF ITS INTENTION TO PROHIBIT DEPARTURES AND HAVE NO INFORMATION THAT THE PROHIBITION HAS YET BEEN TESTED BY OXY OUR PUBLIC POSTURE FOR THE MOMENT WILL BE THAT WE ARE INQUIRING INTO THE MATTER AND DO NOT WISH TO MAKE ANY STATEMENT UNTIL WE HAVE ASCERTAINED THE FACTS. ACCORDINGLY YOU SHOULD APPROACH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND REQUEST CLARIFICATIONS AS FOLLOWS:
- A. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM THAT AS A RESULT OF ITS OIL CONCESSION DISPUTE WITH THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT, WHICH WAS THE SUBJECT OF LARG DEMARCHES TO US IN TRIPOLI AND WASHINGTON, THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM HAS INFORMED OCCIDENTAL THAT ALLHOF THE COMPANY'S EXPATRIATE EMPLOYEES AND THEIR WIVES AND CHILDREN HAVE BEEN PROHIBITED FROM LEAVING LIBYA. WE ARE PUZZLED BY THIS BECAUSE WE DO NOT ACCEPT THAT THERE SHOULD BE ANY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A COMPANY'S BUSINESS DEALINGS WITH A GOVERNMENT AND THE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT OF ITS EMPLOYEES AND THEIR FAMILIES. WE WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION OF THIS MATTER FROM THE LIBYAN AUTHORITIES.
- B. OCCIDENTAL ALSO TOLD US THAT ON SEPTEMBER 16 AND 17 IT HAD FILED NOTICESHOF ARBITRATION OF THE OIL CONCESSION DISPUTE AGAINST THE LARG WHICH THE LARG IS CONTRACTUALLY OBLIGATED TO ACCEPT, BUT THAT THE LARG RETURNED ITS NOTICES, EVIDENCING UNWILLINGNESS TO GO TO ARBITRATION. HOWEVER, BOTH UNDER SECRETARY TRAYKI AND CHARGE GASHUT IN WASHINGTON TOLD US THAT THE LARG IS WILLING TO SEEK A SOLUTION THROUGH ARBITRATION. WE WERE VERY PLEASED TO HEAR THIS BECAUSE AS LARG KNOWS, USG ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO PARTIES TO INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT AGREEMENTS SETTLING THEIR DIFFERENCES AMICABLY AND ADHERING TO THEIR ARBITRAL OBLIGATIONS. WE SHOULD APPRECIATE ANY CLARIFICATION OF THIS APPARENT DISCREPANCY WHICH THE LPBZAN GOVERNMENT CAN PROVIDE.

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- 3. DEPARTMENT WILL CALL IN CHARGE GASHUT TO POSE SAME QUESTIONS.
- 4. DEPARTMENT WOULD ALSO APPRECIATEHVERIFICATION OF OXY FIGURES ON NUMBER OF EXPATRIATE AND U.S. CITIZEN EMPLOYEES AND FAMILY MEMBERS IN LIBYA AS WELL AS LATEST EMBASSY COUNT OF TOTAL NUMBER OFHU.S. CITIZENS IN LIBYA. EMBASSY ALSO REQUESTED TO REPORT IMMEDIATELY ANY VERIFIED CASES OF

U.S. CITIZENS DENIED PERMISSION BY LARG TO LEAVE LIBYA FOR REASONS RELATED TO OXY DISPUTE.

5. SUBJECT CAME UP AT TODAY'S PRESS BRIEFING. PRESS TELEGRAM WILL CONTAIN TEXT. $\,$ KISSINGER UNQUOTE

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, LY, US, OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM CO

To: LONDON

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